

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. SD-6778/S96430
 SERIAL NO. 09/975,271
 PATENT

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 16 have been canceled. Claims 2, 4, 6-8, 17, 19-21 and 27 have been amended. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 13-15, 25, 26 and 28.

Claims 8, 9 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention.

Claims 1, 4-6, 16, 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent Application US2002/0183013 A1 to Auckland et al ("Auckland").

The Examiner objected to claims 2, 3, 7, 10-12, 17, 18 and 21-24 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but noted that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been canceled. Claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form including the limitations of its base claim (canceled claim 1). Applicants respectfully submit that claim 2, as amended, is in condition for allowance.

Claims 4, 6 and 7 have been amended to depend from allowable claim 2. Claims 3 and 5 depend from allowable claim 2. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 4, 6 and 7, as amended, and claims 3 and 5 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 8 has been amended to remove the element of "said switch transceiver" which lacked proper antecedent basis. Claim 8 depends from claim 7, which further

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depends from allowable claim 2. Claim 9 depends from claim 8. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 8, as amended, and claim 9 are in condition for allowance.

Claims 10 and 12 depend from claim 7, which further depends from allowable claim 2. Claim 11 depends from claim 10. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 10-12 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 16 has been canceled. Claim 17 has been rewritten in independent form including the limitations of its base claim (canceled claim 16). Applicants respectfully submit that claim 17, as amended, is in condition for allowance.

Claim 18 depends from allowable claim 17. Claims 19-21 have been amended to depend from allowable claim 17. Claim 22 depends from claim 21, which further depends from allowable claim 17. Claims 23-24 depend from claim 22. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 19-21, as amended, and claims 18 and 22-24 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 27 has been amended to correctly depend from allowable claim 26. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 27, as amended, is in condition for allowance.


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In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-12, 17-24
and 27 are now allowable and requests notice to that effect.

Further and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Date: 09/29/05

Respectfully submitted,


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